

TOWN OF HILL
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
November 16, 2021

Selectmen Present: Tom Seymour, Shaun Bresnahan, Christopher Gronski & Lisa Seymour
(Administrative Assistant)

Selectmen Absent: None

Public: Joann Irving, Donald Reese, Francis Razzaboni, David Thomson, Stephen Thomson, Charles Estes, Francis Marsh, Marsha Foden, Sean Foden, Nikolaos Manolis, Elisa, Mark Labonte, Nathan Mills & Stephen Arruda.

Thomas Seymour brought the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

The Board of Selectmen had a conference call with Rodney Wood assessor regarding the utility rates on the MS-1. Thomas Seymour asked why does it say that the municipality DOES NOT use the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) utility values? Rodney Wood stated the we do use the DRA rates. Lisa Seymour will pull the report from the DRA website to see if they matched. The Board of Selectmen signed the MS-1.

Thomas Seymour made a motion to enter into Nonpublic Session at 5:55 pm and it was seconded by Shaun Bresnahan. Motion passed unanimously. (RSA 91-A:3, II(c))

Shaun Bresnahan made a motion to leave nonpublic Session and return to public session at 6:15 pm and it was seconded by Thomas Seymour. Motion passed unanimously. Motion made to not seal the minutes passed unanimously.

FIRE DEPT:

Fire Chief Jamie Moulton would like the website updated to reflect his new contact information. The Fire Department will be flushing the hydrants November 18th because they have not been done in a while. They will be taking the gentle approach when flushing. There is one that they know of that needs to be repaired that is at the pump house located on Murray Hill Road. Jamie Moulton is going to rod test the fire department property to find the septic system because it probably needs pumping. The estimate life of the current system is 30 +/- years. One thing came up when preparing the budget is the fire station is not in compliance and will need to be brought into compliance. We have no safety lights and other issues in the building. Jamie has two companies coming in to give us quotes just to get the building brought into life safety compliance. Shaun Bresnahan asked if we would be getting quotes for a security system and a new roof. Jamie has two quotes for the roof one is for shingles and the other is for metal. Jamie would prefer metal. He stated that in the rear of the building is a hole in the roof and he would like to remove the wood stove and chimney before doing the roofing. He also had two plumbers come in and give a quote for a new furnace. Currently the furnace is forced hot air and it pulls all of the carbon monoxide in to the building when the trucks are running. He would prefer a hot water system. These items would probably be a warrant article. Shaun Bresnahan asked when engine four will be going to White Farm. Chief Moulton said details are still being worked out.

HIGHWAY DEPT:

Nothing to report at this time

POLICE DEPT:

Nothing to report at this time

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR:

Shelly Henry presented her budget for town clerk. This has an increase of \$2,724.00 because of three elections in 2022 and a 3% wage increase. The tax collector budget remained level funded

from 2021. Shelly has an interview on Wednesday for a Deputy Tax Collector and is excited because this person works at another town clerk's office and will need little training. Shelly is also going to advertise this in the paper as an assistant because she really needs some help. The question came up about encumbering wages. Lisa Seymour will need to check with the auditor to see if this can be done.

Shelly Henry asked when we thought the tax rate would be set. Lisa Seymour stated that we are waiting for the school to submit their paperwork. As soon as we receive everything, the board will schedule a meeting to set the tax rate with the DRA.

Shelly is concerned about a dog that runs loose on Bunker Hill Road and when it is caught there is never one at the residence to claim the dog.

Shelly stated that we had a resident pass away and has no family. People in town have been asking about this property. There is a concern about the pipes freezing and Shelly suggested talking to Vinnie Corneau as he and his wife were caring for the resident. David Thomson asked if this was even legal because it could be trespassing. Shaun Bresnahan suggested that the health officer could look into this. Jamie Moulton, Deputy Health Officer, will be contacted to do an inspection of the property and list what needs to be done. Christopher Gronski asked if there was a family member that could come forward and ask or allow it, then it would not be an issue. The question is when does it become abandonment and probated.

HEALTH OFFICER:

Nothing to report at this time.

PUBLIC SESSION:

David Thomson asked a question about Jason Avery. Shaun Bresnahan said that this case will be discussed at the Planning Board meeting on Thursday evening. David Thomson was all set.

Stephen Arruda came into inquire about being on the Conservation Commission and the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA). Stephen has lived in Hill since 2013, enjoys nature, and is willing to join the Conservation Commission to better the town in this area. Shaun Bresnahan made a motion to appoint Stephen Arruda to the Conservation Commission board. Thomas Seymour seconded the motion. All in favor.

Stephen Arruda has also expressed interest in joining the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA). The question was asked if he can be on two boards. This was reviewed and there is no conflict between the two boards. Shaun Bresnahan made a motion to appoint Stephen Arruda to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA). Thomas Seymour seconded the motion. All in favor. Thomas Seymour administered the oath of office for both positions.

Charles Estes sent an email stating the following "Pursuant to the invitation in the letter received via certified mail, I will be attending tonight's meeting at 6:30PM. Attending with me will be Stephen Thomson, Frank Razzaboni and possibly Frank Marsh. We will NOT be allowing the Selectmen to break out in Non Public session, These matter are public and will be conducted at an open meeting pursuant to NH RSA 91 A,2."

Charles Estes wanted to address the letter he received in reference a notice of conduct. Thomas Seymour, Chair – Board of Selectmen, stated in the letter that you have been named in a formal complaint that has been registered with the Board of Selectmen. The complaint, made by Selectmen Gronski, describes offensive and intimidating behavior during a break at a recent Zoning Board of Adjustment public hearing. Selectman Gronski feels that the behavior "was completely inappropriate" and your "physically threatening actions (Squaring off towards me about 6" from my face) during the break (witnessed by the other Selectman Shaun Bresnahan) were harassment."

Charles Estes stated "I believe Christopher Gronski was clear about being on break. However, Christopher Gronski blew up in Charles Estes' face making Christopher Gronski the aggressor to

Charles Estes. Christopher Gronski said that is not true Charlie. Christopher Gronski stated that he has a witness that would testify to this. Christopher Gronski stated Charles is a liar.

Christopher Gronski said that Charles Estes walked up to him during a break at the ZBA meeting and was 6 inches from his face. Christopher said Charles told him "we don't need your diagnosis". Christopher Gronski told him to "back the f*** up, don't square off with me." Christopher said Charles Estes lied. Christopher Gronski stated that the Board of Selectmen invited Charles to a meeting and he accepted, but later refused when he learned this was the topic to be discussed.

Everyone was having an opinion. Charles Estes told Christopher Gronski "you don't listen on the Razzaboni recusal. You don't shut your f***ing mouth long enough to listen. I don't f***ing want to talk to you."

After multiple interruptions, Thomas Seymour asked to finish his comments. He said Lisa Seymour sent Charles Estes an email On October 27, 2021 asking him to come in and meet with the board. Charles Estes stated he was available any afternoon or evening and he wanted like to know what the subject matter is. When Lisa Seymour told Charles Estes the meeting is to discuss the conduct towards Christopher Gronski at the ZBA, Charles Estes replied he had absolutely no interest whatsoever in discussing or hearing anything Christopher Gronski has to say about "my" supposed conduct "toward him".

Stephen Thomson had recessed the ZBA's public hearing and wasn't present in the room when the confrontational between Charles Estes and Christopher Gronski took place. Stephen Thomson stated the problem with the misconduct in a public hearing does not lie on Charles Estes. Christopher Gronski has the right to observe all boards because he is a Selectmen. Stephen Thomson stated that we only have four ZBA board members and need three members to make a quorum and if we lose one it will be a major problem because we have a public hearing on December 2, 2021 for the gravel pit.

Charles Estes stated that Christopher is abusing his position as a selectman. Stephen Thomson stated that Christopher Gronski's questions regarding Frank Razzaboni's recusal is not something you do in a public hearing. He felt it has no bearing on the Board of Selectmen and could result in grounds for an appeal.

Shaun Bresnahan asked Charles Estes what he thought would be the outcome of approaching Christopher Gronski knowing the history between them. Did he think that calm rational conversation would take place?

Francis Razzaboni got up and said, on "I recused myself it was my choice to recuse and I was not forced into it by the board." He also said Charles Estes and Christopher Gronski should look at what is in the best interest for the town and they could agree to disagree. He felt they should put their differences aside and do what is best for the town.

Charles Estes asked for Christopher Gronski's resignation from the Board of Selectmen. Christopher did not offer his resignation, nor did the Selectmen request it.

Francis Marsh and Shaun Bresnahan said they both thought when Charles Estes walked across the room towards Christopher Gronski, there was going to be a fight. Stephen Thomson said this is about someone having his feelings hurt.

Charles Estes said he reviewed non-public meeting minutes that were not sealed mentioning him to not be re-appointed to another board or term. Charles stated he felt he was being threatened.

Charles Estes made clear the Selectmen do not have "judicial" authority to remove anyone from any board. Thomas Seymour corrected Charles Estes stating that the appointing authority may remove appointed members of committees or boards under specific circumstances (Reference NH RSA 673:13).

Mark Labonte said it's more about accountability. Mark said they both should shake hands and move on.

Charles Estes asked the notice of conduct be removed from his record. Thomas Seymour, as chairman, stated that we will take this under advisement.

Thomas Seymour closed the discussion.

Christopher Gronski has chosen not to withdraw his compliant letter on file. Due to the formal complaint remaining, Thomas Seymour made a motion that the Notice of Conduct letter stays on file. Shaun Bresnahan seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Charles Estes left the meeting saying he feels the Selectmen are all against him.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Building Permits:

Nikolaos Manolis's building permit was denied for Wolf's Den Realty. The Selectmen can't approve a building permit on a class six road as it needs to go before the Zoning Board Adjustment (ZBA). If they were building on the existing footprint that would not be a problem. However, Nikolaos Manolis wants to move it back 30 yards and build a new house. Stephen Thomson, chairman of the ZBA, stated that this would be a change in use and would need a special exception. Thomas Seymour needs to research for more information on this. Charles Estes stated this would be an application for variance.

Marsha & Sean Foden building permit for an addition for a screen room (16' x 20') was approved.

Intent To Cut

None

Other Business:

Revised revenues have been approved through the Department of Revenue.

Shaun Bresnahan made a motion to enter into Nonpublic Session at 9:06 pm and it was seconded by Thomas Seymour. Motion passed unanimously. (RSA 91-A:3, II(c))

Shaun Bresnahan made a motion to leave nonpublic Session and return to public session at 9:50 pm and it was seconded by Christopher Gronski. Motion passed unanimously. Motion made not to seal the minutes passed unanimously.

Robert Shultz, who volunteered to raise & lower the flag at the pond, install a new lighting system, and add additional electrical outlets at the pond out of his own pocket has decided to return the flag and the keys to the Selectmen's office due to all of the issues about the flag and resistance to his offers.

Shaun Bresnahan will build a covering for Michael Brady's tree at the pond to protect it from the winter elements.

Encumbering of funds need to be presented to the Board of Selectmen by December 14, 2021 for approval. These requests must have a purchase order and either a quote or invoice.

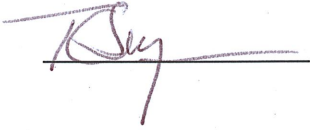
Christopher Gronski will sign off on the ARPA funding with the exception that we are not mandated for COVID-19 vaccinations.

With no further business to conduct, Shaun Bresnahan made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Thomas Seymour seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously motion at 10:20 pm.

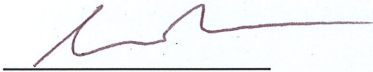
Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Seymour

Tom Seymour, Chair



Shaun Bresnahan



Christopher Gronski

